

THE NATIONAL ERA.

G. BAILEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR; JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

For the National Era.

LEONARD WRAY.

A ROMANCE OF MODERN HISTORY.

By the author of "The Chronicle of the Beastie," "The Embodiment," "The Leg," "Philip's Letters," &c.

CHAPTER XVII.

A Chapter that may be skipped by those who do not care about politics in novels.

It soon became apparent to the leaders of the various political factions, and to France at large, that the Spanish king had no longer any real administrative ability, but indomitable energy and force of will. The first feeling was one of astonishment, which quickly resolved itself into mortification and anger. Legitimists, Orleanists, Bonapartists, Liberals, Republicans, and Imperialists, all those who had made mistakes, and one that left them no resource, saw such as might spring from a facious opposition in the Chamber. But again they were failed, by the very Constitution which had cost so much time and labor to perfect; and it was now that the most imminent crisis between the head of the State and the Chamber, a struggle for mastery, which would terminate in the annihilation of the revolution, by creating a despotism more arbitrary than the one it had been intended to destroy.

Another blow had also been brought to right, and the boy king. The Bonapartists made a party in the country. The representatives of the true, honest, Republican faction, which had voted to a man in favor of Cavaignac, stood revealed in all the weakness of their utmost strength. Throughout France they had polled fewer than one million and a half of votes, and had been beaten in the three thousand five hundred and seventy-seven thousand eight hundred and eighty-five votes cast by Louis Philippe, who had also been beaten by a majority of one of either of the other factions.

The recent elections had proved that the sympathies of the country were in another direction. Who then, could the nation look up to but to the man who had secured the largest number of votes? And what did he represent? He was a Republi- can, who should be promoted to occupy the chair in the Senate on the expiration of the Presidential term of four years, as fixed by the Constitution.

At last, time, Mr. Richards responded, pointing his finger at the door, "I am the man whom you wanted to see, and I have come to you."

"Mary, what is wrong? Has anything hap- pened?"

"I don't know whether I am to tell you or not."

"Tell me, tell me, tell me!"

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1854.

THE KANSAS AND NEBRASKA MOVEMENT IN OHIO.—The readers of the *National Era* are referred to the proceedings of a meeting held at Oberlin on the 21st ultmo. It was a large meeting, composed of the right description of men, and influenced by the right spirit.

It is probable that a company will depart from Cleveland during the approaching fall, "News," written in intelligent correspondence, was never the public mind more impressed upon any subject than that at present. Northern girls are alive on the subject of freedom in the new Territories.¹²

AN ARGUMENT.

No argument is more common with the friends of Slavery, and more relied upon than the alleged fact that the slaves have a larger allowance of food and clothing than the laboring classes of Europe. We by no means assent to the truth of this assertion; but allowing for the moment, for the sake of argument, that it is true, what is the inference from it? Every man of common information knows that European countries are crowded with population, and, in the language of political economists, that "population presses upon the means of subsistence." It is equally admitted that in this country population is sparse and, land abundant. This state of things would be sufficient to account for the fact, even if it were more generally true than it is, that slaves in America enjoy a larger share of physical comfort than free laborers in Europe. But does it follow that because of this fact, allowing it to be true, therefore slaveholders may justly and lawfully, in the sight of Heaven, take from the black laborer his daily earnings; that he may whip and maltreat his slave at pleasure, and, for the sake of driving a good bargain, sell him from his wife and little ones forever? This is the inference which the champions of Slavery draw from the alleged fact to which we have referred above.

We respectfully suggest that in the inference it is not sustainable by the premises, and that it has no sort of dependence upon those premises. It would be the basest cruelty to deny the slave necessary food and clothing, where there is so much abundance; and yet mere necessities are all that the law of Slavery allows. The planters of Louisiana, and other slaveholding States, in their letter to the Hon. Secretary R. J. Walker's circular, in 1815, stated that fifteen dollars for food and fifteen dollars for clothing was the usual allowance for slaves, and they show that this sum is sufficient to buy whatever is necessary to keep soul and body together. The master, at the same time, according to the same authorities, was making from one to four hundred dollars "per hand."

G.

STANLEY'S WESTERN WILDS.

Stanley, the great Indian artist and traveler, has just produced an admirable panorama and series of illustrations of Indian life. It will be exhibited in Washington during the present week, and will be taken hence to Europe at an early day.

OUR THANKS ARE DUE TO EDWARD C. DELAVAN, ESQ., PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK STATE TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—A handsomely bound volume containing twelve "Temperance Tracts for the People" issued by that Society. It is a volume of great worth. A dollar, sent to O' Scoville, agent, at Albany, will secure, unpaid, an abundant supply of these and other tracts—2,016 pages in all.

SENATOR DOUGLASS AT CHICAGO.—The flag of the shipping in the harbor were displayed at half-mast at noon on the 1st instant, expressive of indignation at Senator Douglass's opposition to the River and Harbor bill, and the bells tolled all the afternoon. He was to speak at night, and there was much excitement throughout the city.

THE EXCITEMENT AT CHICAGO.—Chicago, Sept. 1.—Judge Douglas was not allowed to speak last night. There was great excitement at the meeting, but no breach of the peace occurred.

STEAMBOAT EXPLOSION.—A few days since, just after the steamer Timour No. 2 had landed her passengers at Edward's Yard, near Jefferson City, Missouri, her three boilers exploded, scattering death and destruction around, and leaving the boat a total wreck. The boat was from St. Louis bound to St. Joseph, and was valued at \$15,000.

The captain of the Timour reports twenty killed, being nineteen hands of the boat, and the pilot.

THE NORTHRUP KIDNAPING CASE.—The kidnappers of Solomon Northrup—Alexander Merrill and Joseph Russell—were indicted at Saratoga on the 1st instant; but they will not be tried till October or December.

"IT IS STATED THAT THE REPORT THAT A LARGE HOTEL FOR COLORED PEOPLE WAS TO BE CREATED IN NEW YORK, WAS BUT A HOAX. A "hoax" is interpreted to be a deception without malice. The originator of this story therefore knows whether he has hoaxed or lied. But we must confess that we do not see anything unusual in the provision in New York of a respectable hotel for respectable people of color. We doubt not it would pay well; and we are sure that it would prove more orderly, sedate, and comfortable, than many of high reputation now existing there for the exclusive use of "the superior race."¹³

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.—This valuable weekly paper will commence a new volume on the 16th instant. It is devoted to all the useful pursuits of life. There is no one whom it can fail to interest and interest. Munn & Co. New York, \$2 per year.

PARNON BROWLOW.—We suppose this is a real person, though, of course, only styled Parnon for the purpose of casting ridicule upon the clerical profession. He is said to be the editor of the *Knoxville (Tenn.) Whig*. Commenting on the burning alive of a negro for an atrocious murder, that paper of a recent date says:

"We unfeignedly affirm that the punishment of death for such a crime, if it had been there, should have been a painful and slow death. We suggested the pinching of pieces out of skin with red hot pincers—the cutting off a limb at a time, and then burning them all in a heap."

It speaks badly for Knoxville, that such a creature can find a home and admirers there.

FOR KNOXVILLE.—Two hundred emigrants are already settled in the new State, Pa., and will leave on the 1st of September. They take with them a power press, and a large quantity of type.

At the special election for sheriff in Berkeley county, Va., held on Tuesday last, Mr. Newcomer, the Know-Nothing candidate, was beaten 47 votes, by Mr. Cross.

THE MILWAUKEE PRESS.—The Milwaukee Sentinel has a careful statement of the loss by the fire in that city, the amount of which is \$38,900, amount of insurance \$223,050.

NEW YORK AND VIRGINIA.

The Marcus de Castele, in his admirable work on Russia, delineates with a master hand the workings of despotic Government on the minds and character of the people, and is tendency to destroy everything like candor and frankness in conversation or writing upon public affairs. "Hitherto," he says, "I have been accustomed to believe that men could no more dispense with truth for his minister than with sun and air for his body; but my Russian journey has undeceived me. Truth is only useful to elevated minds, or to advanced nations. The vulgar accommodate themselves to the falsehoods favorable to their passions and habits. Here, to lie is to protect society; to speak the truth is less transparent than the twilight of politics is less transparent than the pale sky."

The despotism of Slavery has produced a result in the Southern States similar to that which the French philosopher observed in Russia. Southern editors and politicians regarding nothing as so fatal to the South and to Slavery as truth; and the utmost efforts are made to hide it from the public view. Not merely the moral deformities of Slavery must be protected from discussion and exposure, but even its material and economical inconveniences are too delicate, too sacred, and too vital, to be subjected to the rude hand of criticism. The most palpable and self-evident facts—such as the superiority in wealth, power, education, and civilization, of the North over the South—are as far as possible kept out of sight; and when brought before the public, they are stoutly denied, and the effort is made to destroy the impression they would naturally make, by the most absurd fabrications or misrepresentations.

The champions of Slavery not only seem to think that "ignorance is bliss"; but that it is better for the people to believe a lie than to know the truth. How absurd! How wanting in faith in God, to imagine that His truth—for the sake of which we are to overthrow the State. The twilight of politics is less transparent than the pale sky."

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Southern editors and politicians regarding nothing as so fatal to the South and to Slavery as truth; and the utmost efforts are made to hide it from the public view. Not merely the moral deformities of Slavery must be protected from discussion and exposure, but even its material and economical inconveniences are too delicate, too sacred, and too vital, to be subjected to the rude hand of criticism. The most palpable and self-evident facts—such as the superiority in wealth, power, education, and civilization, of the North over the South—are as far as possible kept out of sight; and when brought before the public, they are stoutly denied, and the effort is made to destroy the impression they would naturally make, by the most absurd fabrications or misrepresentations.

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LETTER FROM KANSAS.
KANSAS TERRITORY, August 29, 1854.

To the Editor of the National Era:
Since the publication of my former letters in your paper, we have received hundreds of letters from all parts of the country, inquiring about Kansas. Although wishing to impart all the information in my power, yet were I to speak all my time to letters, I could not at least answer one-half of them. A few, and not me, of personal obligation, such that I am obliged to write at least to them. Others, whose letters may be unanswered, will find this the reason why. One wants to know "if the lands here are subject to taxation"; another, "how to get a title to a farm"; others, the cost of moving; still others, the cost of moving away; and so on. I have no time to answer all these questions, and so far as I can, I will endeavor to do so.

Some of the Pro-Slavery papers of the community are those that are known all over the State. Our Whig friends, and Democratic Anti-Negro friends, are not disposed at all to set aside the Free Soil cause, in making arrangements. Almost three Free Soil men received the Republican nomination for Congress—Hon. J. R. Giddings, Hon. Edw. Wade, and Hon. Philo. Bliss—and the election of all of these is sure.

This nation may be sealed, but let the fair land of Kansas be restored from the wreathed darkness of slavery, and in a moment a whole nation will be born. Near the pupit, in which he was standing, the plastering was not broken, and to his right several old ladies and others escaped unharmed. When he had recovered from the blow, he said by the dust and smoke, "I am already dead, like the other man, greatly mangled, just appearing among the rubbish, a lady clasping her child in the agonies of death, and a young boy, with her body bent across one of the seats, and she faces most horribly distorted. From different parts of the building he heard the groans of the dying, and the stifled screams of the crushed."

Now we have two strings we can pull, and both shall be well pulled, was the determination of all. We will send good men to Congress, and, as soon as they are seated, the Emancipation organization will be established, and in pointing into Kansas an Anti-Slavery population which shall resist and prevent the ingress of Slavery. To the consummation of an and so important, we will give both our time, and our strength, and energy.

This will be done,

"For the National Era,
LIBERTY VERSUS SLAVERY."

Now that the so-called Representatives of the people have betrayed their constituents, it becomes the people themselves to take the master of the slaves, and to command him to the curse of Slavey and Sin. But, however, one of the strongest animosities of modern times, is that of a people professing the pure principles of republicanism and democracy, and holding themselves as *model* to all nations, should become the advocates of one of the basest systems of oppression and slavery ever known.

Our Government is nominally democratic;

but it is virtually aristocratic; or, what is worse, the nation is ruled by a Slave oligarchy. Theoretically, all power emanates from the people; while virtually and practically, a people of Washington is the *emperor*.

The equality of rights and opportunities is the great and fundamental principle of the democratic creed; while, in the practical operations of the Government, this principle is annulled. Almost the entire power and patronage of the nation is concentrated in the hands of catchers, it has length succeeded, through the aid of Northern doughfathers, in effecting the double evil of extending slavery into free territory, and also in abrogating a solemn compact by which slavery was forever prohibited in said territory. As was anticipated, the passage of the Compromises of 1850, by which the slaves were to be sent to the South, has taught the South that her demands, however insolent, will be complied with.

Talk no more to me of African Slavery. We are not a nation of slaves!

Arrives have been frequent since our latest.

The latest is that of the Pacific at New York, on the 3d, with Liverpool dates to the 23d of August.

The news of the capture of Bomastrand by the allies, previously received, is confirmed.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

For the National Era.

The youth's glad hours have passed away,
And hope may never more unfold
Her rosy chapter, and the cold
And darkness of life's winter day.

They talk to me of withered flowers;
Which thinly round my pathway lie;
And bid me count the wavy hours,
Nor dream again of leafy bower.

Beneath a drowsy, winter sky.

I heed not them, nor wait their bane.

Midst all life's mingling hope and fear,

There is a spell that will can throw,

Even young old age, a sunny glow,

Untarnished by the fangs of years.

Life's winter comes not alone;

With tapering stem and hoary hair;

When joy's bright risings all have flown,

And love's sweet fire has lost its tone.

Tis always—everywhere.

When they, on whom our hopes were hung,

From our pale paths have passed away,

The sorrow-stricken heart, though young,

Feels in each gay scene's gaudy bloom.

That life is but a winter's day.

Then comes the frost, and hoary hair;

And life's young affection's withered flowers,

Even in old age a wreath may twine,

Of mirth and of gaiety.

And then may come the winter's sky.

But they who have not learned to pine

Over spring's sweet blossom's bright bower,

The eight days may dim the eye,

And bid the cheek's rich bloom depart;

Yet if the loved ones still are nigh,

A warm radiance lights the sky.

A normal warmth glows round the heart.

What though spring's sweet and glittering throneth

Of flowers greet not the falling sight?

To the dull ear no more belong,

The music of the wild bird's song.

Whose earth is green and skies are bright.

Yet love can all things else outlast,

Give rapture to life's evening home,

And round our fading moments cast

The memory of a spring that's past.

The promise of a spring to come?

C. H. C.
Glen Quist, Coshocton, Ohio.

LITERARY NOTICES.

FERN LEAVES, SECOND SERIES.—The publishers of this handsome volume are Miller, Orton & Mulligan, Buffalo, and Sampson, Low, Son & Co., London. "Fern Fern" is the name of the author, and it is well known, but we think the single page, "The Aged Minister," and its engraved illustration, would make this a good book, were all the rest of its leaves blank.

For sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington.

c.

LAW IN KENTUCKY.—"Tempest and Sunshine; or, Life in Kentucky," is a domestic novel, in one volume, by Mrs. Mary J. Holmes, from the publishing house of Messrs. Appleton, T. & N.Y. The verdict of the press has been uniformly favorable, and the scenes and incidents are interesting, the characters agreeable, and the portraiture of Kentucky life more in sunshine than in shadow.

For sale by F. Ransome, Washington.

c.

A TALE OF SPANISH LIFE.—"The Master's House, or, Stories of Southern Life," by "Logan," is a work of one thousand pages, from the press of T. L. McElrath & Co., New York. It is but fair to say that the Southern life here depicted is that seen with Northern eyes. The sketch is truthful, though a little colored, and the scenes and incidents are most attractive, to some degree, upon the condition of slavery, are forcibly presented to our view. That pictures of an opposite character may be fairly drawn, is true; but they do not disprove the record here made, nor affect the argument deduced. Though a deportment was always a tyrant, it does not follow that deputation is the best condition of society.

c.

SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES.—The character of "Annual of Scientific Discoveries, or Year Book of Facts in Science and Art," is well known, and comprehensive, and has been well gotten up by Messrs. Gould & Lincoln, Boston, and Turner & Co., London.

For sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington.

c.

ORIGINAL SCENES.—The "Oriental and Eastern Tales" from Notes of Travel in Greece, Turkey, and Palestine, by Fisher Howe, are given in a handsomely printed and illustrated volume, issued by W. D. Dodd, New York. A collection of such stories as these has travelled over the countries of the Bible, and verified and located its important incidents. With the reader, he retraces the journey in familiar converse, and describes with simplicity its scenes and incidents.

c.

PRINCIPLES OF ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE PHYSIOLOGY.—"A Text-Book of Animal and Vegetable Physiology," from the London edition, the other volume of "Orna's Circle of the Sciences," by J. Stevenson Bushman, M. D., & Co. It is a popular treatise of great excellence, on the functions and phenomena of organic life, and is preceded by a highly instructive review of the several prominent systems of knowledge, of which it is the best compilation of the aesthetic views of many modern naturalists.

For sale by Frank Taylor, Washington.

c.

THE WORKS OF ADDISON.—The fifth and last volume of the "Works of Joseph Addison," edited by George Washington Curtis, is before the public, and has been well received by the popular author. The popular taste would be elevated by the more general perusal of the writings of this great man.

For sale by Frank Taylor, Washington.

c.

CALAVARA.—Robert Montgomery Bird's "Calavara, the Knight of the Conquest, a Romance of Mexico," has been handsomely reproduced, in one volume, by Redfield, of New York. Two or three other recent writings of American authors were less esteemed than at present, this production of Dr. Bird's, won the position in the popular esteem it has ever since retained.

For sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington.

c.

A SCIENTIFIC HAND-BOOK.—"Peter's Family Physician; or, The Scientific Explanation of Common Things," is edited by E. Peter, Member of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, and published by R. E. Petersen, Philadelphia. It is an exceedingly valuable little book of reference and instruction in matters by no means generally understood.

c.

A VOYAGE ROUND THE WORLD.—Chas. Scribner, New York, has issued a handsome volume, entitled "A Voyage Round the World, and Sketches of Other Countries," by Rev. James Piercy, B. A., of Trinity College, Oxford; and the edition before us (published by C. S. Francis & Co., New York) is a complete work, and has been well received.

The popular taste would be elevated by the more general perusal of the writings of this great man.

For sale by Frank Taylor, Washington.

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A COURSE OF ENGLISH READING.—This little volume justly professes to be "adapted to every reader, and should be in the hands of every one who desires to be acquainted with English literature." It is by the Rev. James Piercy, B. A., of Trinity College, Oxford; and the edition before us (published by C. S. Francis & Co., New York) is a complete work, and has been well received.

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STUDIES IN LITERATURE.—"Advanced Latin Exercises, with Selections for Reading," is the title of the classical series, revised and enlarged, issued by Messrs. Blanchard & Lee, Philadelphia.

For sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington.

c.

REVELATION AND GEOLOGY.—"The Two Records, the Mosaic and the Geological," is the title of a little book, comprising the substance of a lecture, by Hugh Miller, author of "Food of the Rock," &c., &c., just published by G. and L. Lincoln. The author who has enjoyed a momentous triumph on the subject of the "Rock and the Creator," &c., &c., just published by G. and L. Lincoln. The wide range of his powers, and his candid and unflinching adherence to the truth, will impress the mind of him who would enter upon this field, and render necessary a guide to conduct him through its unfamiliar labyrinth. That guide is here presented, and they are wise who early consult its counsels.

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ONE'S CIRCLE OF THE SCIENCES.—"A Series of Treatises on various branches of Human Knowledge," thus entitled. The Nature of the Great Departments of Knowledge, and the Physiologies of Animal and Vegetable Life, are the subjects presented in these numbers. They are

published in cheap form, by Blanchard & Lee, Philadelphia, and for sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington.

c.

Rosina's Poem.—Phillips, Sampson, & Co., Boston, have republished, in good style, "The Complete Poetical Works of Samuel Rogers," with a Biographical Sketch and Notes, edited by E. Sargent. The elaborate elegance of these poems, though by no means so highly recommended, nevertheless demands for the thoughtful perusal of every one who can appreciate the perfection of the art of English poetical composition.

For sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington.

c.

DR. QUINNEY'S ESSAYS.—Messrs. Ticknor, Reed & Fields, Boston, present to us, in two very small volumes, a series of "Theological Essays, and other Papers," by Thomas De Quincey, author of "Confessions of an English Opium Eater." These essays are well written and clearly composed, and are intended to be of interest to the student of history, and the moral law.

For sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington.

c.

THE CHILD AT HOME.—The edition before us of this well-known and well-written little book is from the press of the Harper's, New York. Like "The Mother at Home" by the same author, it explains and enforces the relative duties of both parents and children. For sale by Frank Taylor, Washington.

c.

WESTERN SKETCHES.—The "Hive of the Bee Hunter" embraces a series of Sketches, from the pen of T. B. Thorpe, of Louisiana. They are descriptive of the scenery, sports, and pursuits of the West and Southwest, and are both truthful and vivid. From the press of D. Appleton & Co., New York and London. For sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington.

c.

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For the National Era.

PROPERTY IN MAN, IN THE TERRITORIES.

The present momentous dispute respecting the admission of slavery in Nebraska, brings up a question which seems not yet to be fully understood—the question of the constitutional right of property in man in the Territories. In all the discussions and documents on this subject, emanating from the South, we see it continually urged, that as the new Territories annexed to the Union are purchased with the blood or treasure of the nation, the inhabitants of the Southern portion of it should have a right to move into them with their property, as well as the people of the North; that the different species of property should make no difference in this right; but that if the people of the North are allowed to migrate into the Territories, the title or property in them, their slaves, should be prohibited from carrying into them their property, and that the slaves should be prohibited from carrying into the Territories any article which would be injurious to the health of the white population.

For sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington.

c.

THE LEGAL TENURE OF SLAVERY.

LETTER XVII.

TESTIMONY OF SOUTHERN STATESMEN, OF S. SENATE, AND THE FEDERAL COURTS.

To the Friends of America:

Slavery is a fact, and is established by the Constitution of the United States.

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